

## **PSWA CELEBRATES LACDMH SOCIAL WORKERS AT ANNUAL LUNCHEON**

**By Karen Zarsadiaz, Public Information Officer**

On Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, the Professional Social Workers' Association (PSWA) held its annual luncheon and award ceremony at the California Endowment Center in downtown. The event celebrates social workers in the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) as well as National Social Work Month.

Before the luncheon and award ceremony, Barbara Stroud, Ph.D., presented *Culturally Sensitive Practice: Engagement without Insult*. After lunch, Adrienne Cedro Hament, L.C.S.W., delivered the keynote speech to the audience.

This year, awards were handed out for PSWA Rising Star and the PSWA Social Worker of the Year as well as the AFSCME Council 36, Local 2712 Robbyn Panitch Memorial Award. Listed below are the nominees and winners:



### **Robbyn Panitch Memorial Award:**

Thuan Duong, P.S.W. I,  
Coastal Asian

### **2014 Rising Star Award Winner:**

Lisa Valentino, P.S.W. I,  
Downtown Mental Health





### **2014 Rising Star Award Nominees:**

Mayra Altamira  
Sima Baikov  
Tina Chung  
Carey Kim  
Daisy Munoz  
Chelsea Warr  
Armine Zambre

### **2014 Social Work of the Year Award Winner:**

Leslie Jang, L.C.S.W.,  
Children's System of Care



### **2014 Social Worker of the Year Award Nominees:**

Evelyn Carriciolo  
Rebecca Prine  
Marisol Roman  
Anil Thomas